PINVHEELS Promote Positive Message

The Pinwheels for Prevention campaign reminds us to learn what we can do to ensure that all children are happy and healthy.

The blue pinwheel symbolizes childhood happiness, and is one of Prevent Child Abuse Virginia's best ways to raise awareness about the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Here are some steps parents and community leaders can take to promote pinwheels and focus attention on an important topic:

PLANT a makeshift pinwheel garden somewhere fun, like in a bird bath! Be imaginative.

INCLUDE the pinwheel theme in activities at home. Make pinwheel-shaped cookies or bookmarks for neighbors, family, friends and co-workers.

NOTE five high-traffic areas that you pass by daily. Seek permission to plant pinwheels in at least two locations.

WALK with your child and count the pinwheels in the neighborhood or in your shopping area. Plan to increase the number next year.

HOLD a competition to see how many pinwheels you and your friends or your organization can distribute.

ENCOURAGE your child's school to hold a pinwheel decorating contest. Ask community groups and local businesses to display the pinwheels, too.

EDUCATE your various social circles about the pinwheel's message. Ask them to display pinwheels in their windows, gardens or on their Facebook and Twitter pages.

LOOK for creative ways to display pinwheels. For example, add them to indoor flower pots, ask choirs to perform while holding pinwheels or add an image to your emails.

SHARE the meaning behind the pinwheel, which is a "happy and uplifting symbol of childhood" and a reminder for us to do our part in preventing abuse and neglect.

